

<b>Course Name: Plant Materials Program Implementation &amp; Utilization</b>	
<b>Course Coordinator: Plant Materials Specialist/Plant Materials Center Manager</b>	<b>Course Number: MI0071</b>

**Overview:** This course outlines the NRCS Plant Materials Program. Participants will gain an understanding of the program. Knowledge gained will help participants utilize the program in accomplishing the mission of NRCS. The course will be held at the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center in East Lansing, MI and the participants will have the opportunity to work and gain an understanding of the PMC operation.

**Purpose:** Provide participants with an awareness of the Plant Materials Program and how they can utilize the program while helping customers.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Duration:** 18 hours (first day 10:00am – 4:30, second day 8:00 am – 4:30, third day 8:00 am to noon)

**Target Audience:** NRCS and Partners. Individuals who plan, design, or install practices involving plants.

**Expected Outcomes:** Upon the completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- explain the mission and purpose of the NRCS – Plant Materials Program
- understand the authorities by which the Plant Materials Program operates
- understand and explain the NRCS policy on the operation of the Plant Materials Centers
- explain the staff positions and responsibilities (National , Regional , State and Local)
- explain how the State PM Committee functions, its members make up and its purpose and responsibilities
- understand the development of annual and long range business plans
- know the number, locations and service areas of Plant Materials Centers and Plant Materials Specialists
- understand how projects and studies are the foundation of plant science technology development in the Plant Materials Program
- incorporate field-based technology studies into work
- explain the different types of plantings utilized by the PMC program (Off-center Plantings, Field Plantings, Conservation Field Trials, Educational Plantings, Performance Trials)
- identify and arrange opportunities for technology transfer
- make appropriate collections of seed, cuttings etc. requested by PMC
- establish field plantings, conduct and prepare evaluations of plantings
- contact and follow-up with commercial growers for production and availability of released plant materials
- understand the benefits of released conservation plants and be able to promote its use to landusers and commercial growers

**Resources needed:**

Outline for: **Plant Materials Program Implementation & Utilization**